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Longitarsus kopdagiensis GRUEV et ASLAN, 1998, further details of
morphology and description of female
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Alticinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Longitarsus kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN, 1998 is redescribed and illustrated. The original description is supplemented by a description of the female, ecological data, additional illustrations and discussion.

Longitarsus kopdagiensis was described based on three males only (GRUEV et ASLAN, 1998). During the field research in the type locality (Kopdag Geçidi) and in the neighbouring mountains of NE Turkey (21.08.-1.09.2003) further numerous specimens of the mentioned species were collected. The abundant material and immediate observations allow to supplement the original description by further data, particularly by a description of the female.

***Longitarsus* (s. str.) *kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN, 1998**

DIAGNOSIS

Ocular furrows distinct, frontal tubercles absent. Spur of hind tibiae short. Body entirely pale yellowish, labrum darkened. Fore tibia formed normally, elytra without any impressions or longitudinal convexities. Upper side very finely punctate. Body length: male 2.9-3.3 mm (on average 3.1), female 2.8-3.8 (on average 3.3). General view as on phot. 1.

Complementary data to description of male. Length of body (49 specimens) 2.9-3.3 mm, on average 3.10 mm. Length of antennae (47 specimens) 2.24-2.29 mm, on average 2.26. First tarsomere of fore legs slightly enlarged. Anal sternite with longitudinal furrow reaching the mid of the apical lamella.

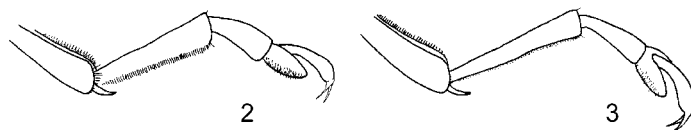


1. *Longitarsus kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN, male (left) and female (right)

Sexual dimorphism very weak, limited to relatively small difference in body length, to feeble enlargement of fore metatarsus in male and to usual differences in shape of anal sternite. In male antennae are relatively longer, which does not depend on their absolute length (in both sexes similar, on average 2.26 mm), but as a result of smaller total body length in male.

Description of female. Length of body (27 specimens) 2.8-3.8 mm, on average 3.31 mm. Length of antennae (25 specimens) 2.23-2.27 mm, on average 2.26 mm. All external characters not involved in sexual dimorphism, as in male. Length of body slightly greater, fore tarsi slender, elytra in hind part slightly enlarged (phot. 1, right). Spermatheca as in fig. 10.

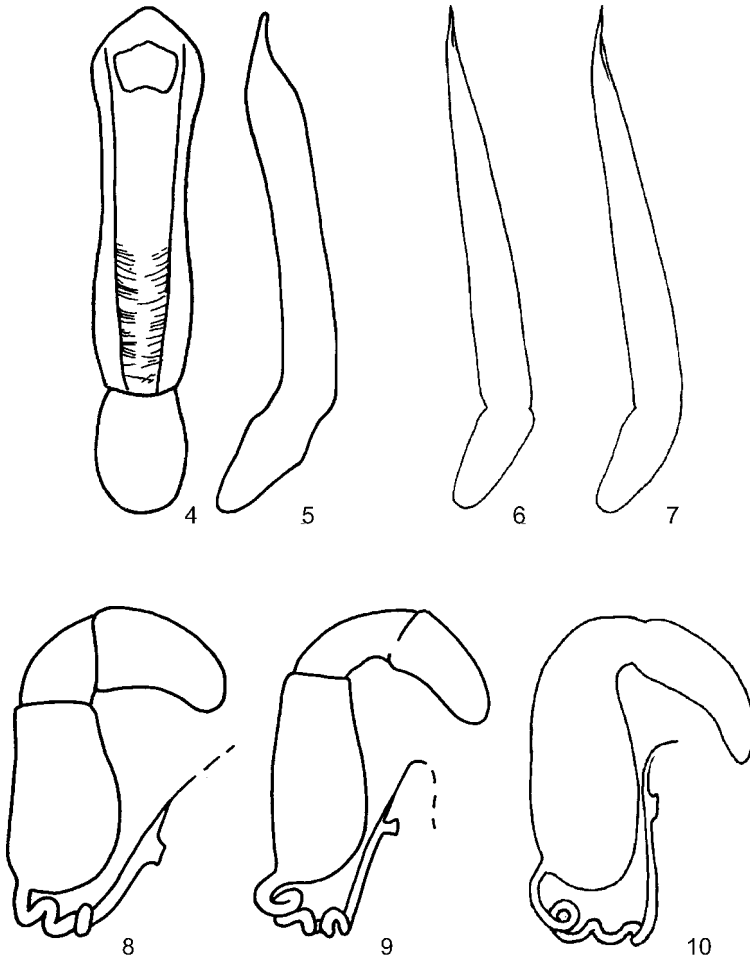
Host plant (feeding repeatedly observed!): *Senecio anatolicus* PETRAK (*Asteraceae*).



2, 3. Hind tarsus: 2 – *Longitarsus jacobaeae* WATERH.; 3 – *L. kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN

DISCUSSION

In the original description *L. kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN is compared with *L. pellucidus* Foudr., feeding on *Convolvulaceae*, however it belongs to the group of *L. jacobaeae* WATERHOUSE, containing rather large (2.4-3.8 mm), pale coloured, very finely punctate species with short spur of hind tibia and well-developed humeral calli, living on *Asteraceae*. *L. kopdagiensis* is distinctly larger than *L. pellucidus* (the largest females of *L. pellucidus* are smaller than the smallest males of *L. kopdagiensis*).



4, 5. *Longitarsus flavicornis* (STEPH.), aedeagus in ventral and lateral view (after DÖBERL, 1994); 6, 7. Aedeagus in ventral and lateral view (orig.); 6 – *Longitarsus jacobaeae*; 7 – *L. kopdagiensis*; 8-10. Spermatheca: 8 – *Longitarsus flavicornis* (STEPH.) (after SHUTE, 1976); 9 – *L. jacobaeae* WATERH. (after LEONARDI, 1972); 10 – *L. kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN (orig.)

KEY TO SPECIES OF *L. JACOBABAE*-GROUP:

1. Upper side ochre yellow to reddish yellow. Apical part of aedeagus in dorsal view broadened, apex in lateral view slightly bent upwards (figs 4, 5), ductus spermathecae inserted at bottom of vasculum (fig. 8). Distributed in W Mediterranean area (Morocco, Algeria, Iberian Peninsula) and W Europe (Ireland, Great Britain, France, Belgium) *flavicornis* (STEPHENS, 1831).
- Upper side pale yellow. Apical part of aedeagus in lateral view almost straight (figs 6, 7), insertion of ductus spermathecae inclined to dorsal side of vasculum (figs 9, 10) 2.
2. In hind legs first and second tarsomere usually feebly, evenly widened to apex (fig. 2). 4-5 apical antennomeres slightly but distinctly darkened. Elytra usually matt. Apical part of aedeagus indistinctly bent upwards (fig. 6). Spermatheca as in fig. 9. Distributed from the British Isles to Caucasian countries *jacobabae* (WATERHOUSE, 1861).
- In hind legs first and second tarsomere slender (fig. 3). Antennae uniformly pale or 1-3 apical antennomeres very feebly darkened only. Apical part of aedeagus in lateral view slightly but distinctly bent upwards (fig. 7). Elytra usually shining. Spermatheca as in fig. 10. Distributed in NE Turkey *kopdagiensis* GRUEV et ASLAN, 1998.

The morphological differences between *L. kopdagiensis* and *L. jacobabae* are rather stable but weakly perceptible and require an immediate comparison of specimens. The similarity of both species involves also the distinctive form of spermatheca and the feeding specialisation (genus *Senecio* L., *Asteraceae*). Possibly, they are only geographical races of *L. jacobabae* WATERH. Solving of the problem will require examination of materials from NW Turkey, since the closest confirmed localities of *L. jacobabae* are situated in Bulgaria.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

(81 specimens collected in prov. Erzurum, NE Turkey): 21.08.2003, Kop Geçidi, 2330 m, 9 males and 6 females; 23.08.2003, Kireçli Geçidi, 2400 m, 8 males and 4 females; 24.08.2003, Kireçli Geçidi, 2400 m, 16 males and 11 females; 26.08.2003, Saç Geçidi, 2345 m, 4 males and 2 females; 28.08.2003, Kop Geçidi, 2330 m, 7 males and 4 females; 31.08.2003, Kop Geçidi, 2330 m, 5 males and 2 females; 30.08.2003, ad Ovaçık, 2050 m, 2 males and 1 female (all leg. I. ASLAN and A. WARCHAŁOWSKI, collections of both authors).

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